

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Commonwealth
Conference

THE new Far East crisis created by the Formosa situation inevitably has affected the priority list of subjects on the agenda of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference. The relationship of SEATO to the defence of Southeast Asia would, in the normal course of events, have figured high on the agenda. Nevertheless the immediate preoccupation of the conference with latest Far East developments does not mean that other subjects of less urgency will be ignored.

Whatever questions are dealt with by the Prime Ministers, no hard and fast decisions are likely to be reached. Any such thing would be out of keeping with the motivating forces which bring the Commonwealth political chiefs into regular session. It is the flexible interchange of ideas which remains the essence of these meetings. The dovetailing of policy conceptions is the most important achievement at the disposal of the Premiers.

At the same time it is true to observe that there never has been such a period at which consultation between the governments of the Commonwealth countries has been so close and so continual.

That is a point of no little importance in world affairs. It is a hard indication of the fact that the Commonwealth, despite the looseness, and to many minds, puzzling illogicality of its structure, has a very real existence.

A NOT insignificant feature of these Commonwealth conferences is the gradual change in their design and meaning which has taken place since the original meeting of representatives of colonial governments called in 1887. Ten years later the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and the self-governing colonies for the first time met for confidential talks on a footing of something like equality. Later still came the conception, legalised through the Statute of Westminster, of the Empire becoming a "galaxy of free nations."

To the astonishment at first, and later the admiration of the rest of the free world, that conception proved thoroughly workable and the new association has lasted. It has, in fact, become more and more real.

Herein lies the significance and importance of the Commonwealth and of the Commonwealth Conference. It is a grouping of free nations which is neither racial, nor regional, nor religious. It has its difference, as is inevitable in any association, whether of individuals or of peoples. Yet, perhaps illogically and irrationally, it has its own unity of ideas and purpose; its own conception of the partnership of "a galaxy of free nations."

The present meeting comes at a difficult, possibly dangerous moment in world affairs. But its potential influence on those affairs is already recognised by the rest of the world. The diplomacy of the British Commonwealth as represented through such diverse personalities as Mr Nehru of India, Mr St Laurent of Canada, Mr Hollands of New Zealand, Mr Mohammed Ali of Pakistan, Mr Menzies of Australia and Sir Winston Churchill is needed more today than any previous time.

The peace of Asia may well rest on the deliberations and agreements of the Commonwealth Conference this week.

Important White House Statement Expected

DEFENCE OF MATSU & QUEMOY

Washington, Feb. 1. President Eisenhower may clarify tomorrow United States intentions regarding the use of its armed forces for the defence of the Chinese Nationalist-held islands of Quemoy and Matsu against Communist attack.

The Administration is reported in well-informed quarters to be considering the need for clarification on this point. The President's weekly press conference tomorrow will give him an opportunity of removing any possible misunderstandings between the United States and its Chinese Nationalist ally about the use of United States air and naval power to aid the Nationalists in the defence of these islands if they are attacked by the Chinese Communists as a preliminary to any attack upon Formosa itself.

For the last three days, there have been persistent reports from Taipei that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek was postponing orders for the evacuation of the Tachen islands pending a clarification of United States intentions regarding the defence of Quemoy and Matsu.

The continuing effort of the United Nations Security Council to bring about speedy ceasefire in the Formosa area could in itself provide a sufficient reason for holding up the Tachen evacuation which President Eisenhower last week was authorised by Congress to protect.

CLARIFYING STATUS But there have been indications that the Nationalist Chinese would like a clarification of the status of Quemoy and Matsu and that the Administration is considering how such a clarification could be made without either giving information of military value to the Communists or committing the United States irrevocably to defend any particular island.

It is known that the early drafts of the President's message to Congress were more specific than the last regarding the potentialities of defending Quemoy and Matsu.

One of these was shown to certain members of Congress on January 22 and may also have been shown to the Chinese Nationalist Foreign Minister, Mr George Yeh, who is currently in Washington.

The President's message was, however, altered to make it less specific on this point shortly before he sent it to Congress on January 24 and this may lead to misunderstandings by the Chinese Nationalists.

On January 24, high Administration sources stated that it had at one time been planned to draw a line and issue a public statement to accompany the message but that this proposal had been dropped.

These sources emphasised the insuperable geographical difficulties of drawing a line, the danger of giving notice to the Communists of what islands they could possibly pick up on their side of the line without risking a fight, and the desire not to turn the offshore islands into little "Dien Bien Phu's" which the United States would be committed to defend irrespective of any future situation which might develop.



Arriving for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London last week was the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr S. G. Holland (pictured above with the New Zealand High Commissioner in London, Mr Clifton Webb left and the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, Lord Swinton). In the picture below, Lord Swinton (with his back to the camera) is seen greeting the Ceylon Prime Minister, Sir John Kotelawala at London airport last week.—Central Press photographs.

Grimwood's Eloquence Impresses Critics

Our Own Correspondent

London, Feb. 1. Mr. E. G. A. Grimwood, Director of the Hongkong Government Office in London, answered questions about Hongkong industry fired at him today by 30 British industrialists, including some whose trade has been hard hit by competition from Hongkong goods.

And afterwards the National Union of Manufacturers who had convened the special meeting congratulated Grimwood on the eloquence of his representative.

But they reserved their comments on the subject under discussion: whether competition from Hongkong was fair or otherwise. They will meet again to discuss the situation in the light of Mr Grimwood's remarks, and publish their comments in a statement to the press.

Today's meeting was also attended by Mrs Irene Ward of the Hongkong Government's London Office, who returned yesterday from a fact-finding mission to the Colony.

the Imperial Preference regulations made it impossible for Hongkong traders to export Japanese goods from the Colony under the guise of Empire products.

While sympathising with British manufacturers who were hit in their home market by competition from Hongkong goods, he emphasised the problems involved were by no means all on one side.

Hongkong had lost a third of its foreign trade as a result of its faithful adherence to the United Nations' strategic embargo on export to China, and this loss must be made up if the Colony was to support its huge population.

Youths Break Into Family Vault

Durham, Feb. 1.

Two youths broke into the family vault of Sir Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, opened an old coffin, and fled in terror at the sight of a boy corpse, a Durham Court was told today.

The prosecution said that two young miners, Herbert Stephenson, 16, and Albert Mandley, 21, committed the offence at Winstone Hall, near Durham, "to have a look, as they called it."

The last coffin they forced open was that of a boy who died in 1856, the nine-year-old son of the late Sir William Eden.

"To their horror, this small, almost perfectly preserved body emerged," counsel said. They fled at once.

Stephenson was so upset that his parents made him surrender to the police. Mandley was said to have declared after his arrest: "I was so shocked I thought I had been stabbed with a knife. The shock nearly killed me. I will never forget it as long as I live."

He had since written to the Eden family, apologising for his act.

The last known case of the kind in Britain, the unlawful removal of a corpse from a grave in a consecrated mausoleum, was said to have occurred in 1788.

The judge sent Mandley, the ringleader, to prison "for this revolting and disgusting thing" until he decided what to do with him. Stephenson was placed on probation for three years.—China Mail Special.

Lay Claim To Fortune

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 1.

A working class family living in a tumbledown house in a Rio suburb, today laid claim to the fortune of Serge Rubinstein, millionaire financier, found strangled in his New York flat on January 27.

They are Godario Rubinstein, and his sister Elva, who claim that the millionaire was their uncle. Godario said his Russian-born father, Adolph, emigrated from Odessa to Brazil in 1902.

Australia All Out For 111: Test Debacle At Adelaide

Adelaide, Feb. 2.

After a sensational collapse this morning, Australia were all out in the second innings for 111 soon after lunch on the fifth day of the Fourth Test at the Adelaide oval. This left England to get 94 runs to win in a day and half left for play.

The Australian debacle began in the first over of the day when MacDonald went with the third ball. In the next forty minutes, Australia lost four more wickets for the loss of only 14 runs on a pitch which commentators said "did not help the bowlers one little bit."

Australia resumed after lunch with the score at nine wickets for 103.

Davidson took an easy single off Tyson to give the batting to Ian Johnson. With his painful arm, however, Johnson made no attempt to play any shots but simply kept the ball out of his wicket.

Then Johnson took a single from a shot through third slip and gully and two balls later Davidson touched a fast ball from Tyson which sped to the fence for four.

Hutton then took off Appleby who had bowled two maiden overs and put on Wardle. With the first ball from Wardle, Davidson made a steady shot which was taken by Evans.

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Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA—1ST INNS 323
ENGLAND—1ST INNS 241
AUSTRALIA—2ND INNS

Morris, c & b Appleby	16
MacDonald, b Statham	29
Burke, b Appleby	5
Harvey, b Appleby	7
Miller, b Statham	14
Maddocks, lbw Statham	2
Benaud, lbw Tyson	1
Archer, c Evans b Tyson	3
W. Johnston, c Appleby b Tyson	3
Davidson, lbw Wardle	23
I. Johnston, n.o.	3
Extras	5
Total	111

Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Statham	12	1	38	3
Appleby	12	7	13	3
Wardle	4.2	1	8	1
Tyson	15	3	47	3
Fall of wickets:	1—24, 2—40, 3—69, 4—76, 5—77, 6—78, 7—83, 8—101.			

With the next ball, Davidson went forward to a good-length ball and missed... the ball struck his pads, ran up his body, bounced over his shoulder and landed on the batsman's neck. Davidson was sure, for the umpire's hand was already up signalling Davidson out before wicket.

DISASTROUS START

Australia began disastrously today when with the third ball of the first over Brian Statham bowled Victorian opener, MacDonald with a full toss before any addition to the overnight score.

And that was the beginning of the rot. On a pitch, which commentators said, did not help the bowlers "one little bit," which in fact favoured the batsmen, the batsmen were therefore continued to bowl unchanged throughout the morning. Commentators described their attack as "excellent."

After MacDonald's dismissal, his 20 runs had taken 167 minutes. Maddocks, joined Miller, but the partnership lasted barely an over. Statham, Miller, trying to hit out on the leg side, missed, and was clean bowled for 14. Australia was then five for 70.

Tyson bowling from the River end, claimed England's third wicket of this morning's play when Benaud, playing forward to a good ball coming in from the left, went leg before wicket for one run. Australia was then five for 77.

Maddocks began by playing correct strokes with a straight bat but after scoring only two he, too, went lbw to Statham.

Archer could add only three to the Australian total before he clipped a sharply-rising ball from Tyson into the safe hands of England's keeper, Geoffrey Evans. Australia, eight for 83.

Then Davidson and Big Bill Johnston made a "stand", putting on 17 for the eighth wicket. Davidson, unlike his fellow batsmen, opened up and hit out vigorously although few of his shots found the boundary with the English fieldmen concentrated in a virtually impenetrable ring around the wicket.

SENATE RATIFIES TREATY

Washington, Feb. 1.

The United States Senate today ratified the new eight-nation Southeast Asian Defence Treaty to block Communist armed aggression and subversion in that part of the world.

In an unusual burst of speed, the Senate gave its overwhelming support to the treaty after only 100 minutes of debate and with only a lone isolationist voice raised against it.

The vote for ratification was 82 to one. The single dissenter was Senator William F. Knowland (Republican, Dakota). During the debate, Senator Knowland declared that the United States should mind its own business and keep out of foreign entanglements.

The Republican and Democratic leadership joined in throwing their support behind the treaty.—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

Plane Disaster

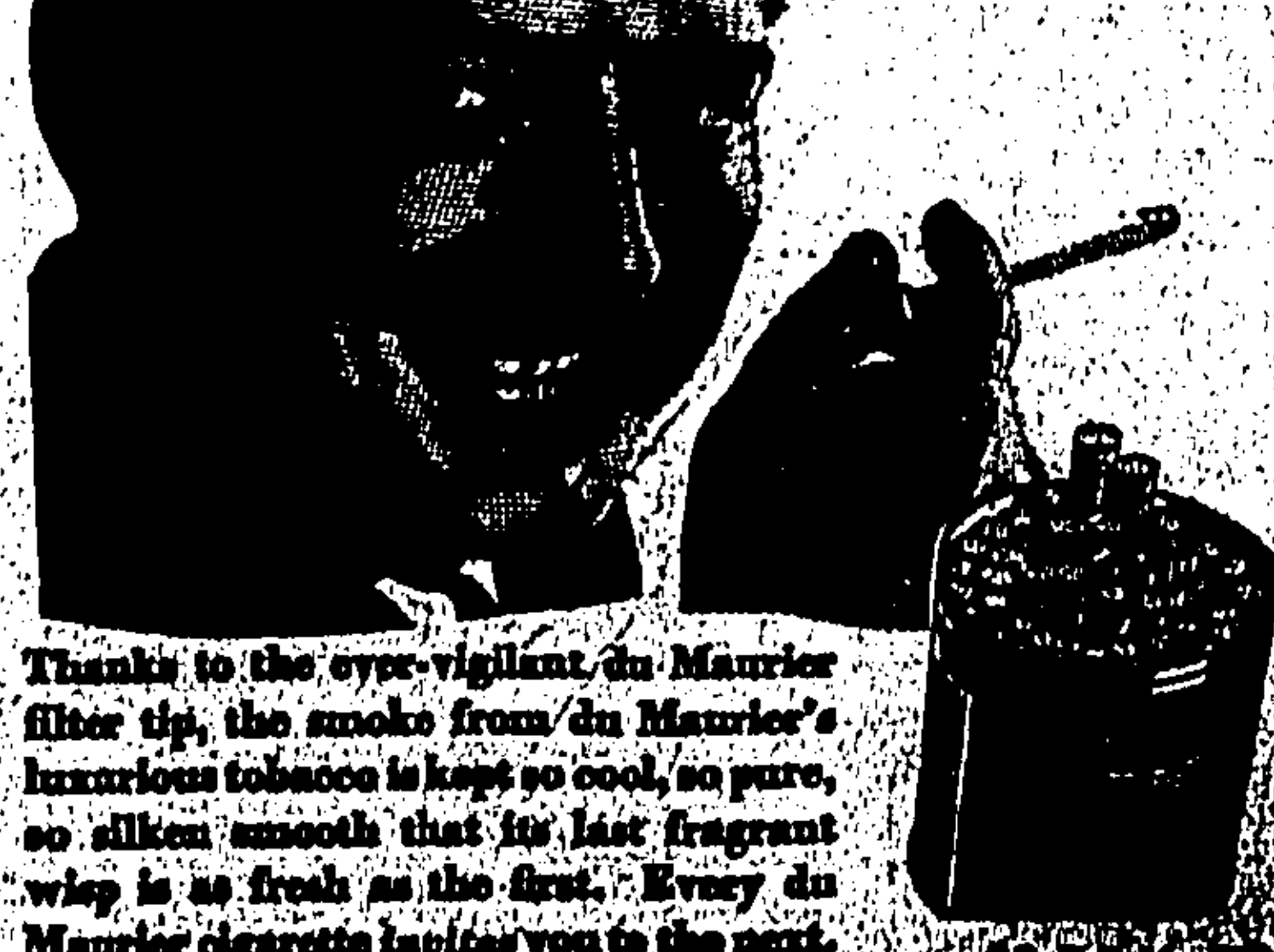
Nagpur, India, Feb. 2. An India Airlines Dakota crashed in flames early today near Nagpur airport, killing all ten occupants.

The crash occurred shortly after the plane had taken off for Delhi.—Reuter.

Tornado Kills 19

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 1. Nineteen persons were killed today by a tornado, which suddenly struck the States of Mississippi and Arkansas, it was reported.—France-Press.

Smoke all you want, enjoy all you smoke



Smoke to your throat's content with a... du MAURIER THE FILTER-TIP CIGARETTE

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

AFTER reading the work of the animal reporters Albert said he would also like to have a shot at interviews. Can you think of anybody in the news you would like to interview, Albert?

Well, there's nine-year-old Margaret Millington, who likes a glass of beer after she has been out with the Brownies.

You'd have to be careful about that, Albert. There might be protests from the temperance organisations.

But she's very healthy on it. At a meeting of the Food Education Society her mother said she had never been ill in her life.

That would only make the temperance people angrier.

And a doctor at this meeting said that if all children were brought up on bread and cheese and beer they would live to a healthy old age.

What would you ask little Margaret?

I would ask her if there was a Brownie drinking song and if they sang it at regimental dinners.

Those would be silly questions to ask a child, Albert.

No, they wouldn't. If they didn't have a drinking song I'd write one for them. That would be rather original, wouldn't it?

It would be something new in interviews.

I mean something like this: Brownies, Brownies out of school, Bottoms up in cellar cool, Brownies, Brownies off parade, Brownies don't drink lemonade.

The temperance people will be mad with rage, Albert.

Brownies happy, Brownies jolly, We are never melan-choly, Brownies rosy, Brownies pale, Down with, down with nut brown ale.

The temperance people are writing letters already, Albert.

I can hear the scratching of their furious pens.

Brownies dark and Brownies fair, Away, away, away with care, We have missed the hockey match, Brownies, Brownies, down the hatch.

You'll be sorry when you get your post bag, Albert.

We don't care for Brownie craft, We don't care, we think it's daft.

Brownies, pass the cup, that cheers, No more lessons, no more tears.

No more silly country walks, No more silly nature talks, Our silly leader's up the pole, Landlord, fill the flowing bowl.

Brownies, Brownies, pass the cup, Brownies, Brownies, bottoms up.

This will be enough for today, Albert.

Hammer & Tongs

SHE said to her husband: "If you invite a man I hate to dinner I shall invite a woman you hate."

He said: "I hate all your friends."

She said: "I hate all yours."

He said: "My friend is a director of a company that pays me to pay my salary."

She said: "My friend happens to be the director of all social activities in our neighbourhood."

He said: "Your friend is a snob."

She said: "Your friend is common."

He said: "Your friend is social poison."

She said: "Yours is social death."

He said: "My friend doesn't want to hear about your friend's diet and what she weighed the last time she went to the chemist's."

She said: "My friend doesn't want to hear about your friend's early struggles and how he lived on cocoa and bread and margarine."

He said: "You should worry considering your father lived on cocoa and bread and margarine."

She said: "My father never lived on cocoa and bread and margarine."

He said: "Isn't that what they have for breakfast in prison?"

She said: "My father never went to prison."

He said: "He was lucky."

She said: "Your father was a bum who lived on his relations."

He said: "As your mother lives on me that makes her a bum too."

She said: "You offered to make my mother an allowance."

He said: "That was to keep her long nose out of my home and business."

She said: "My mother hasn't got a long nose."

He said: "When I first saw her I thought she was an anti-cater."

She said: "Then why did you marry the daughter of an anti-cater?"

He said: "I wanted to do something different."

She said: "Stop insulting my relations."

He said: "Stop insulting my friend."

She said: "I hate your friend."

He said: "It's no use hating a man who pays your house-keeping allowance, bought the house, bought the car AND your fur coat."

She said: "Don't you do anything to earn the money?"

He said: "And keeps your mother."

She said: "From now on my mother will live on her old-age pension."

He said: "Fine, I hear the pigs are overeating themselves."

She said: "And I'll go and join her."

He said: "What are you waiting for?"

She said: "I'll pack my bags now."

He said: "I'll help you."

She said: "If I go I'll never come back."

He said: "Good."

Poddon, So Sorry

THE story of Herr Zeiner, a German football fan who bowed to English spectators, around him, said, "Poddon, so sorry," and offered them liver sausage sandwiches when the German captain Pospisil laid Finney low in a tackle at Wembley, has made me wonder what will happen when Germans take up cricket.

Until I read about Herr Zeiner I always thought that German fieldsmen would crack opposing batsmen over the head with the stumps or bowl hand grenades. If they couldn't get them out any other way.

Now I know that the first Anglo-German Test Match at Lord's is going to be entirely different.

We will assume that the English team are batting and the first ball is a snorter from the German fast bowler. The English batsman plays forward,

misses, and the ball thumps him in the stomach.

He doubles up and rolls on the ground, and instead of the Germans yelling "Howzat!" hoping the umpire will think he was hit on the leg, there will be a universal cry of "Poddon, so sorry."

All the German spectators will turn to the furious red-faced old gentlemen at Lord's and say, "Poddon, so sorry."

They will then offer the furious old gentlemen enormous liver sausage sandwiches, which will make them even more furious.

The German fast bowler will shake the stricken batsman by the hand and say, "Poddon, so sorry."

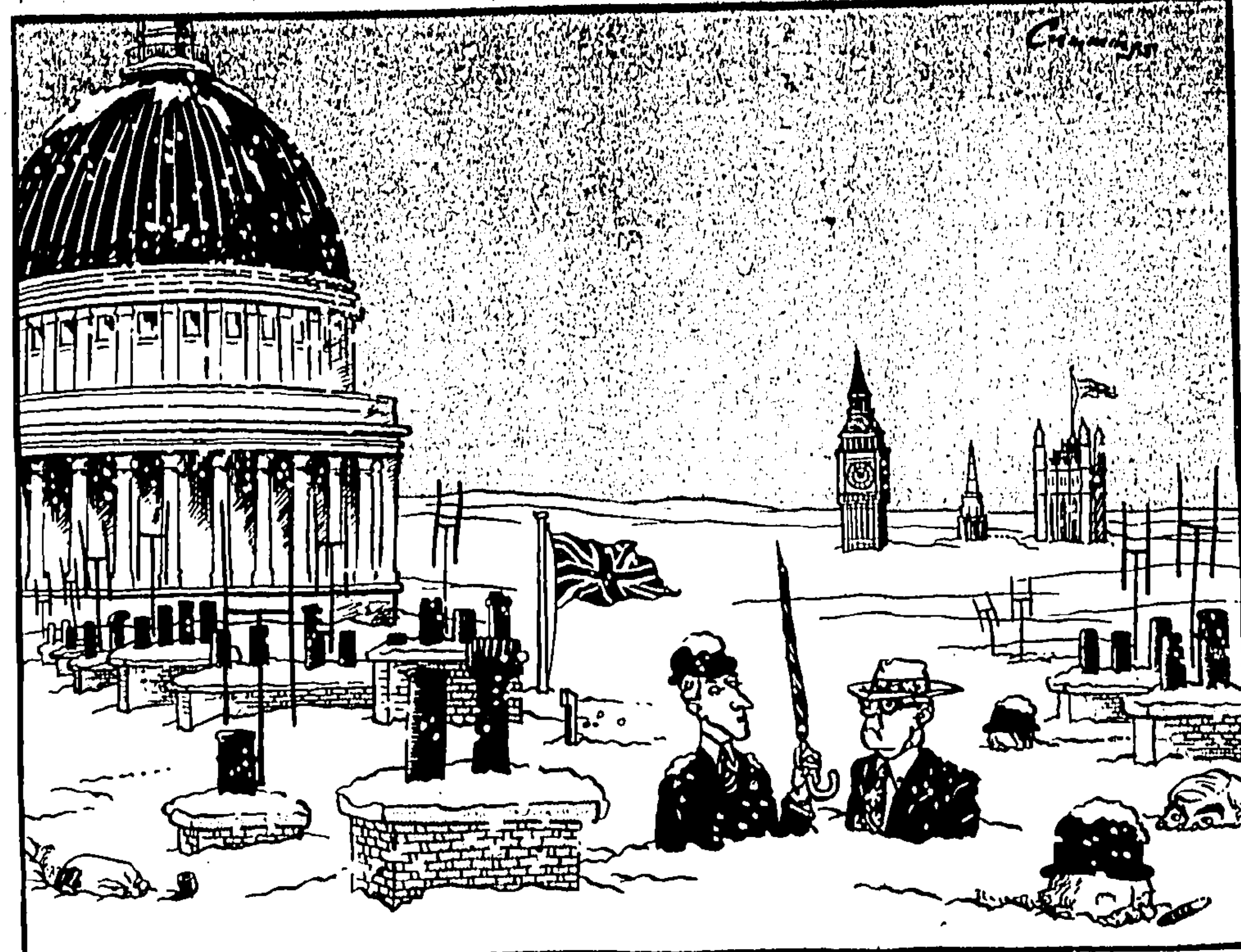
Then the wicket-keeper will do the same. The close-in fieldsmen will line up and say, "Poddon, so sorry," and even those in the outfield will run up to offer their apologies.

After that the German captain will tend for liver sausage sandwiches to console the English casualty, and he, already feeling sick from his injury, will wish he had never been born.

Indeed, I predict that if they become a German cricket custom they are almost certain to win every match by at least 111 runs.

If English batsmen think that when they are hit in the stomach they are going to be forcibly fed with liver sausage sandwiches they will be even more nervous and unpredictable than they are now.

(World Copyright.)



"Adopt universal central heating, double windows, etc.? But, my dear Elmer, Britain has a temperate climate." London Express Service

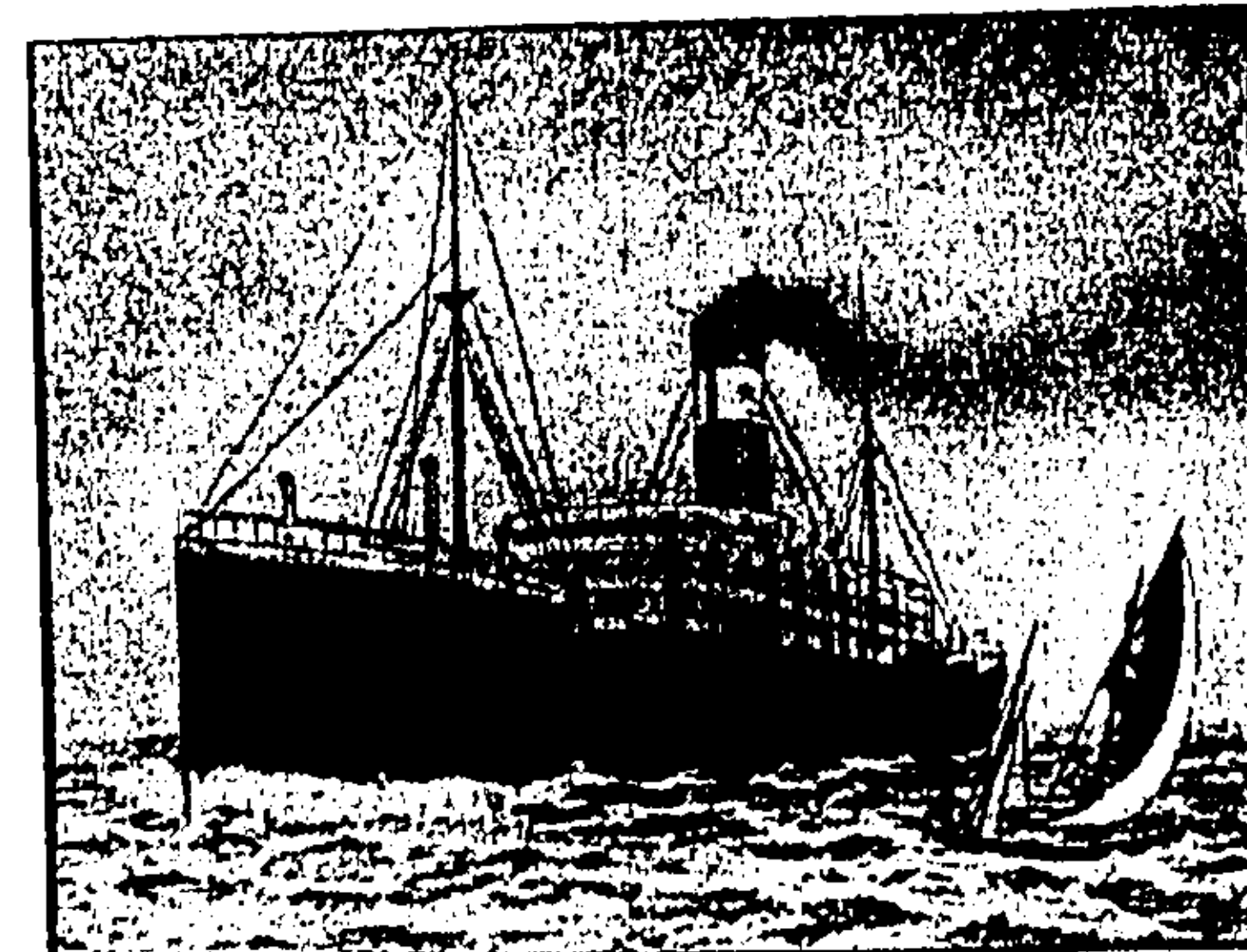
A DREAM SAVED ONE PASSENGER FROM

The Liner That Vanished

★

JOHN ROBBINS

tells another of the world's strangest stories



The Waratah—a distinctive ship.

LONDON waited anxiously in 1909 for news of the 9,000-ton liner Waratah. But none came; none has ever come. To this day no one knows for certain the time, the place or the reason for her disappearance.

That in itself is strange enough. But stranger still is the fact that a man dreamed she had capsized in a storm before it was known that anything had happened to her.

Theories there have been in dozens to explain what tragedy befell this practically new ship after she sailed from Durban in South Africa at 6 p.m. on July 26, 1909. But only one thing is really certain—she never arrived at her destination, Capetown.

From brief reports, however, it is possible to trace her course for some way after she left Durban. On the morning of July 27, for instance, she overtook another British steamer, the Clan MacIntyre, and the vessels exchanged weather information in Morse signals. As the Waratah pulled ahead the other ship flashed: "Thanks, good-bye; a pleasant passage."

And as the Waratah was seen to disappear over the horizon she was steaming rapidly and normally.

Later the same day the Clan MacIntyre encountered a strong gale and high sea, followed by a hurricane which abated on July 29.

The officers of the Clan MacIntyre were the last people to see the Waratah, although the Union-Castle steamer Guelph reported that at 9.51 p.m. on July 27, about 80 miles from Durban, she saw an unidentified passenger ship about five miles away signalling in Morse.

The officer of the watch could not make out the first signal that came, but clearly read the letters "TAH." The steamer—if it was the Waratah—was then on course for Capetown and was showing no distress signals.

GRUESOME

THEN, on August 10, the steamship Totentann passed a number of pieces of flesh. On one larger piece there was an albatross.

The captain took the ship close looked through his glass, and saw what appeared to be a human torso. Throughout the day the ship passed other similar floats, but could make nothing of it as the place was infested with sharks.

But there was nothing—as yet—to connect these gruesome items with the Waratah.

Two years later, in 1911, one of the liner's lifeboats was found—on the New Zealand

coast, thousands of miles from the area in which she was thought to have foundered. This gave rise to further speculation.

During the years, various pieces of wreckage have been washed up on the rocky South African coast. But none of it has ever been positively identified. Nor has any of the uncharted wrecks spotted from the air been proved to be the Waratah.

And no bodies were ever recovered.

Star witness at a 15-day Board of Trade inquiry in London was Mr. Claude G. Sawyer, a company director, who but for a premonition of danger might have been the 212th name on the casualty list.

In his evidence, he said there was "something unusual" about the Waratah during the voyage across the Indian Ocean from Australia.

Soon after embarking from Sydney he noticed she had a big list to port. After they left Adelaide she rolled and wobbled in an "alarming manner," and remained a long time on each side before recovering.

In the early morning before arrival at Durban he had a weird dream. He saw a man "in a very peculiar dress" with a long sword in his right hand, which he appeared to be holding between Mr. Sawyer and other passengers. In his left hand he held a rag covered with blood.

INQUIRY

HE seemed to see the Waratah as a distinctive ship with one funnel and a high superstructure—ploughing her way through heavy seas. As he watched a great wave swept over her bows and, rolling on to her starboard side, she disappeared.

From the scanty evidence available that is most probably

what actually happened to the ship—but no one will ever be sure.

The searching 15-day inquiry, in fact, concluded that the ship capsized with all hands but could not determine the cause.

The "top-heavy" allegations were refuted, and the presiding magistrate, Mr. John Dickinson, who sat with two marine assessors, held that the ship had been stable and seaworthy.

Sailors have discussed the mystery in waterfront taverns the world over. Some believe that the ship's engines failed and she drifted down to the Antarctic. Others think she might have lost her rudder. It has even been seriously suggested that giant octopuses pulled her to the bottom.

A slightly more feasible suggestion is that the ship was caught in a large whirlpool. But it is hardly likely.

There has been a strange twist to the mystery in recent years. In 1929 there was a suggestion that a white man camping on the South African coast had seen a large ship close inshore near the mouth of the Xora River.

The theory was discounted by a former member of the Cape Mounted Riflemen who searched the coast for wreckage at the time.

He asked: If a white man had been in the area and had seen a ship, why did he withhold information?

MYSTERY

THE answer to that question was, perhaps, supplied last year when Frank Price, 71-year-old retired seaman, adventurer and diamond prospector, claimed that it was a man called Jan Pretorius who saw the ship sink.

Mr. Price, who lives in an isolated cottage near the Lincolnshire village of Panton, says that Pretorius was illegally prospecting for diamonds. Capture meant life imprisonment; that is why he did not come forward.

"There was a terrific hurricane blowing," Mr. Price explains, "and Jan took shelter. He looked out to sea and suddenly saw a big ship with one blue funnel wallowing inshore like a pig."

"He saw no sign of life, and then suddenly the ship heeled over and disappeared."

This account is remarkably like Mr. Sawyer's dream; but, unfortunately, it will never be checked. Pretorius is dead; Mr. Price says he "was sworn to secrecy" during his lifetime.

Perhaps, one day, underwater television such as was used to locate the submarine *Argo* will solve this 45-year-old mystery of the sea. Until then the world is left to wonder.

DID EISENHOWER BLUNDER OVER FORMOSA DEFENCE?

By HUGH DUNDAS

DID President Eisenhower blunder by failing to draw out a precise defence line in his message to Congress asking for approval of his new plan to prevent a Communist advance against Formosa?

Should he have made clear to Peking what he certainly has not made clear to Washington—whether the U.S. forces would definitely go into action to save the two major Nationalist outposts of Quemoy and Matsu as well as certain other minor outposts?

These are the questions being asked by politicians and political commentators today. And opinions are evenly divided.

Some say that by deliberately leaving the question in the air Eisenhower may have deceived his own primary object, which was to deter the Communists from making a rash move, by telling exactly what they must not do if they want to avoid

Others—and the most fervent Chiang supporters such as Senator William Knowland are in this camp—are delighted that the outposts should not be altogether abandoned.

Although Eisenhower has caused bewilderment by his deliberate vagueness over the islands and by his implication that even Communist concentrations in mainland ports could come under U.S. attack, the government's intention is actually well defined.

EXPENDABLE

Here is the situation working from north to south.

Eisenhower considers the Tachen Islands, 200 miles north of Formosa, useful outposts but expendable. He said so publicly. He was prepared to take the dangerous step of sending U.S. warships under cover of the Nationalist troops which hold the islands. But he is not prepared to use U.S. forces for the purpose of holding them.

Down the Chinese coast 175 miles you get to three more Nationalist outposts—Yanshan, Matsu and Palichuan.

Both these last two groups fall within the definition of what the President in his message called "related localities." They are not part of the territory which the United States holds inviolate.

But if the Communists attack them with the obvious intention of using them as stepping stones on the way to the Pescadores and Formosa, then Eisenhower will consider himself free to act.

It is acknowledged that in this phase of Eisenhower's policy lies the greatest danger of war. It is a great, big, calculated risk.

In taking the risk Eisenhower was influenced by his old training as a soldier and by his new training as a politician.

He did not want to tell a potential enemy they could walk across the island strategically desirable positions. And he did

not want to alienate political forces which demand that every square inch held by the Nationalists should be defended.

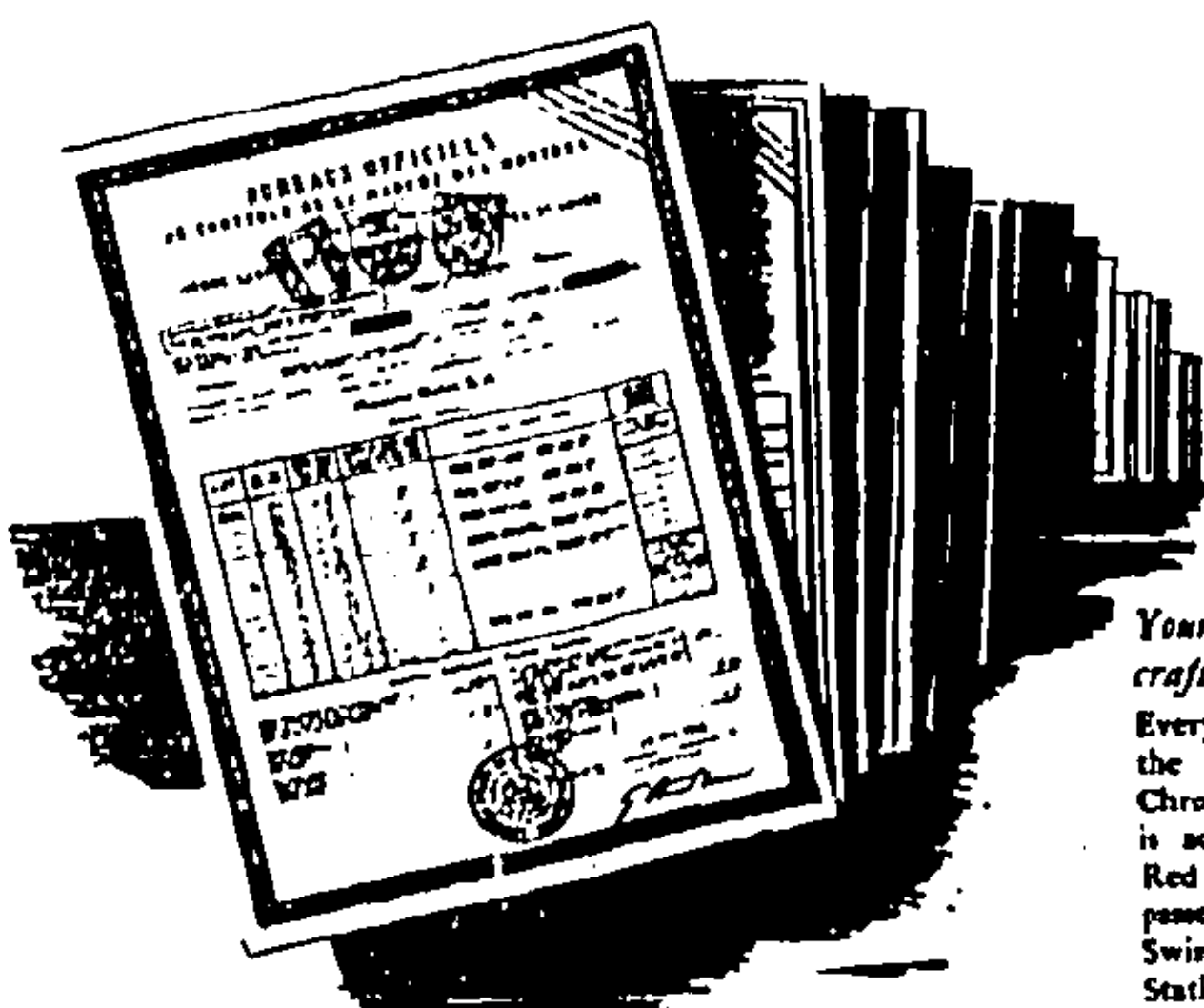
As for the implication—authoritatively confirmed by high government sources—that even mainland ports might be attacked if they were being used for the concentration of Communist forces obviously aimed at Formosa, that is a threat intended as a deterrent.

ATOM WEAPONS

There is no doubt at all that the U.S. sea-air forces in the area would pulverise any invasion fleet the Communists like to muster. Admiral Price could even bring atom weapons to bear. He has a stock of them, and Secretary of State Dulles has announced—on December 20 last year—that tactical atomic weapons are now regarded as "conventional weapons" which may be used at the discretion of a local commander.

Now it's up to China. Dare he put a foot tentatively into disputed ground? And if he does, dare Eisenhower leave him there?

Swiss Chronometer production hit new high in 1953



Your guarantee of quality, craftsmanship and accuracy... Every Rolex Chronometer bears the words "Official Certified Chronometer" on its dial, and is accompanied by the Rolex Red Seal—proof that it has passed the rigorous trials of a Swiss Government Testing Station and has received an Official Timing Certificate.

On November 16th, 1951 the Federation of Swiss Watch Manufacturers ruled that no watch should carry the title *chronometre* unless it had been awarded an Official Timing Certificate by one of the five Swiss Government Testing Stations situated at Bienne, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Le Locle, St. Imier and Le Sentier.

At the beginning of each year these Testing Stations publish yearly reports with details of the watch movements submitted to them, the names of manufacturers and the results of the tests. Reports of the five Testing Stations published early in 1954 reveal that in 1953 the Swiss Watchmaking Industry produced the record number of 48,628 wrist-chronometers. This is an eloquent testimonial to the continuing progress of Switzerland's chief exporting industry.

The Manufacturers of Rolex watches at Bienne and Geneva, were the first for many years to concentrate on the serial production of Chronometer movements. Up to 31st December 1953 Rolex have obtained no less than 236,915 Official Timing Certificates, of which 30,555 were for the year 1953 alone.

Thus in 1953 Rolex obtained 62.8% of all Certificates issued to the entire Swiss Watchmaking Industry. An Official Timing Certificate is, in fact, an incontestable guarantee of quality, craftsmanship and accuracy. In consequence the price of wrist-chronometers is bound to be higher than that of ordinary watches. Through the channels of the top-ranking jewellers of the world, these remarkable precision instruments have become the prized possessions of the most eminent personalities of our era, to whom the exact measurement of time is imperative.



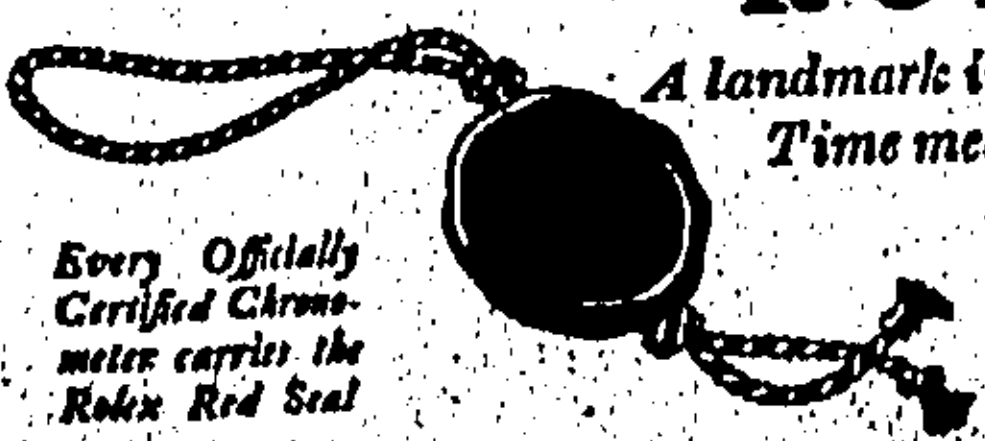
INVENTED AND PATENTED BY ROLEX...

the world-famous Rolex Oyster Perpetual Chronometer, perfectly protected by its Oyster case. Its amazingly accurate movement is given even greater precision by the "rouge" self-winding mechanism.

1953
62.8%
Total number of Certificates awarded to the industry:
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P&O B.I.E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CARTHAGE"	2nd February	8th February
"CORFU"	2nd February	7th March
"CANTON"	2nd March	4th April
"CHUSAN"	10th March	10th April

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CHUSAN"	2nd February	2nd March
"CARTHAGE"	10th February	10th March
"CORFU"	10th March	10th April
"CANTON"	10th April	10th May

Via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

Also calls Marseilles

FREIGHT SERVICE

SINGAPORE	Leaves	Due
"SOMALI"	10th Feb	10th Feb
"IRIGENNA"	20th Feb	20th Feb

With liberty to call at intermediate ports before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if convenient.

Tanks available for carriage of Oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited passenger accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

SANTHA	Leaves	Due
"SANTHA"	10th Feb	10th Feb
"SANTHA"	20th Feb	20th Feb

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

COLINDA	Leaves	Due
"COLINDA"	10th Feb	10th Feb
"COLINDA"	20th Feb	20th Feb

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"SELIORI"	Leaves	Due
"SELIORI"	10th Feb	10th Feb
"SELIORI"	20th Feb	20th Feb

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:-
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
OF HONG KONG LTD.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

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Q-TIPS. America's largest selling
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Messageries Maritimes at London
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DR. SCHOLLE'S Foot Comfort Service.
Telephone: House (Mandarin)
Hongkong provides the expert attention
your feet deserve by London-
qualified Chiropodist.

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COMPLETE OPERAS — Salome,
Hornswallow, Merry Widow, Wind-
son, Othello, Desdemona, Fidelio,
Elektra, Rigoletto, Traviata, William
Tell, Gioconda, Lohengrin, Wagner-
singers, Tannhauser, Tristan, Nabucco
and forty other titles at D. Bessie
4A, Des Voeux Road, room 1, 2nd
floor, telephone 30105.

NOTICE

THE BANK OF EAST ASIA, LIMITED.

Thirty-Sixth Ordinary Yearly General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Ordinary
Yearly General Meeting of the
Shareholders of the Bank will
be held at the Head Office of the
Bank, 10, Des Voeux Road,
Central, Hong Kong, on Satur-
day, the 19th day of February,
1955, at 2.30 p.m., for the pur-
pose of receiving and consider-
ing the Reports of the Direc-
tors and of the Auditors and
the Profit and Loss Account
and Balance Sheet for the
year ended 31st December,
1954, and for the election of
Directors and the appoint-
ment of Auditors.

The Register of Shares of
the Bank will be closed from
Saturday, 12th February, 1955
to Saturday, 19th February,
1955 (both days inclusive)
during which period no trans-
fer of shares can be
registered.

By Order of the Board,
KAN TONG PO.
Chief Manager

Hongkong, 1st Feb., 1955.
More Notices on Page 9, Col. 8

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26851

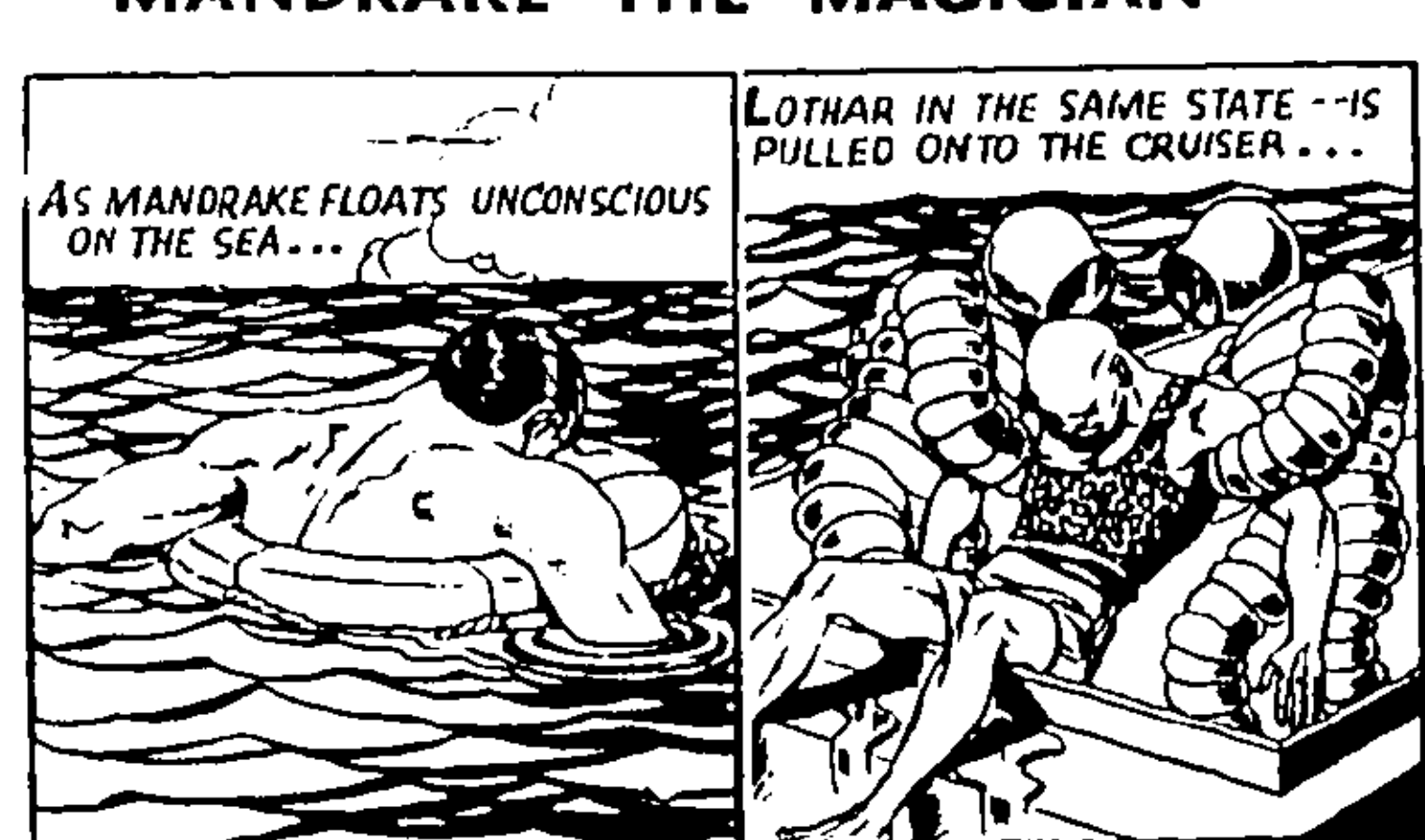
FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

"CAMBODGE" sailing Feb. 25th
"VIETNAM" sailing Mar. 25th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE

"DONAT" sailing Feb. 21st
"ANADYR" sailing Mar. 16th

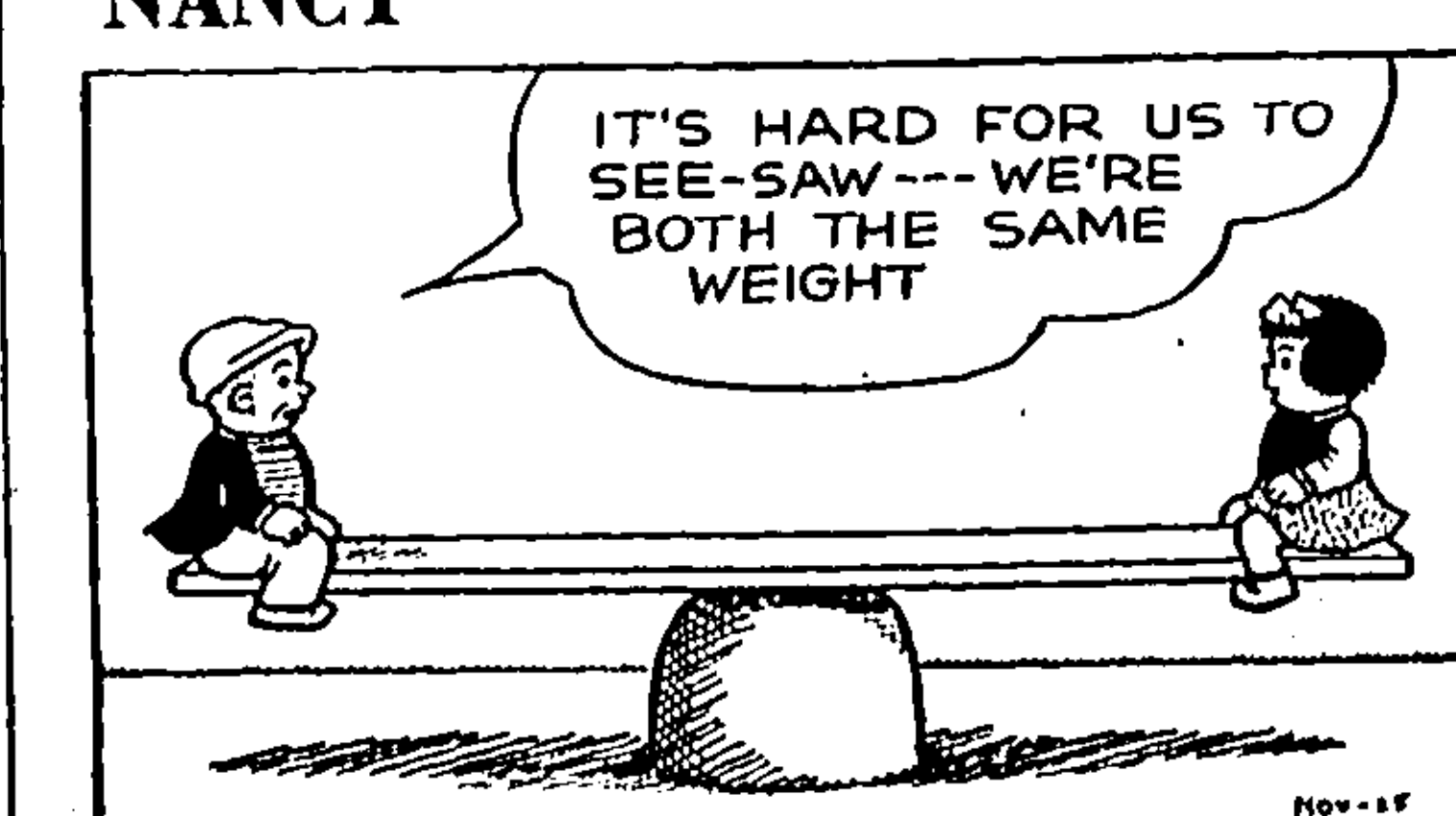
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



FERD'NAND



NANCY



JOHNNY HAZARD



Arab League Leaders Meet

Baghdad, Feb. 1.

Arab leaders who flew to Baghdad to attempt to iron out the difference between Egypt and Iraq regarding the projected Turkish-Iraqi defence pact today held two meetings with the Iraqi Prime Minister, Nuri al Said, and his seven-man team.

The first meeting, which took place in the morning in Nuri's home, was preceded by a meeting of the Iraqi Cabinet under the presidency of Nuri al Said during which Nuri reviewed the situation and outlined Iraq's standpoint on the Turkish-Iraqi pact and Egypt's position.

The Arab meeting was attended by the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister, Ahmad Mukhtar Aban Bahar, the Acting Foreign Minister, Bashayim, Senator Tewfik Elawardi, Senator Salih Jabr, the Foreign Under-Secretary, Yusuf Ghalib, the Chief of the General Staff, Rafiq Arif, and the Director-General of Guidance, Khalil Ibrahim.

POINT OF VIEW

Informed sources said that the Premier gave the fullest opportunity to the visiting delegation to understand Iraq's point of view in connection with the pact in view of Iraq's geographic and strategic position.

The meetings were attended by Sweid and Jabr as members of the Iraqi team.

The evening meeting was held in the Defence Ministry building, near ancient Abbasid Palace on the left bank of the Tigris River.

Observers said the presence of Ghalib indicated the questions connected with the pact with Turkey were discussed. They believed the fact that the meeting was at the Defence Ministry indicated that military questions were emphasised.

The morning meeting had lasted one hour. The visiting delegation had lunch at the White House.—United Press.

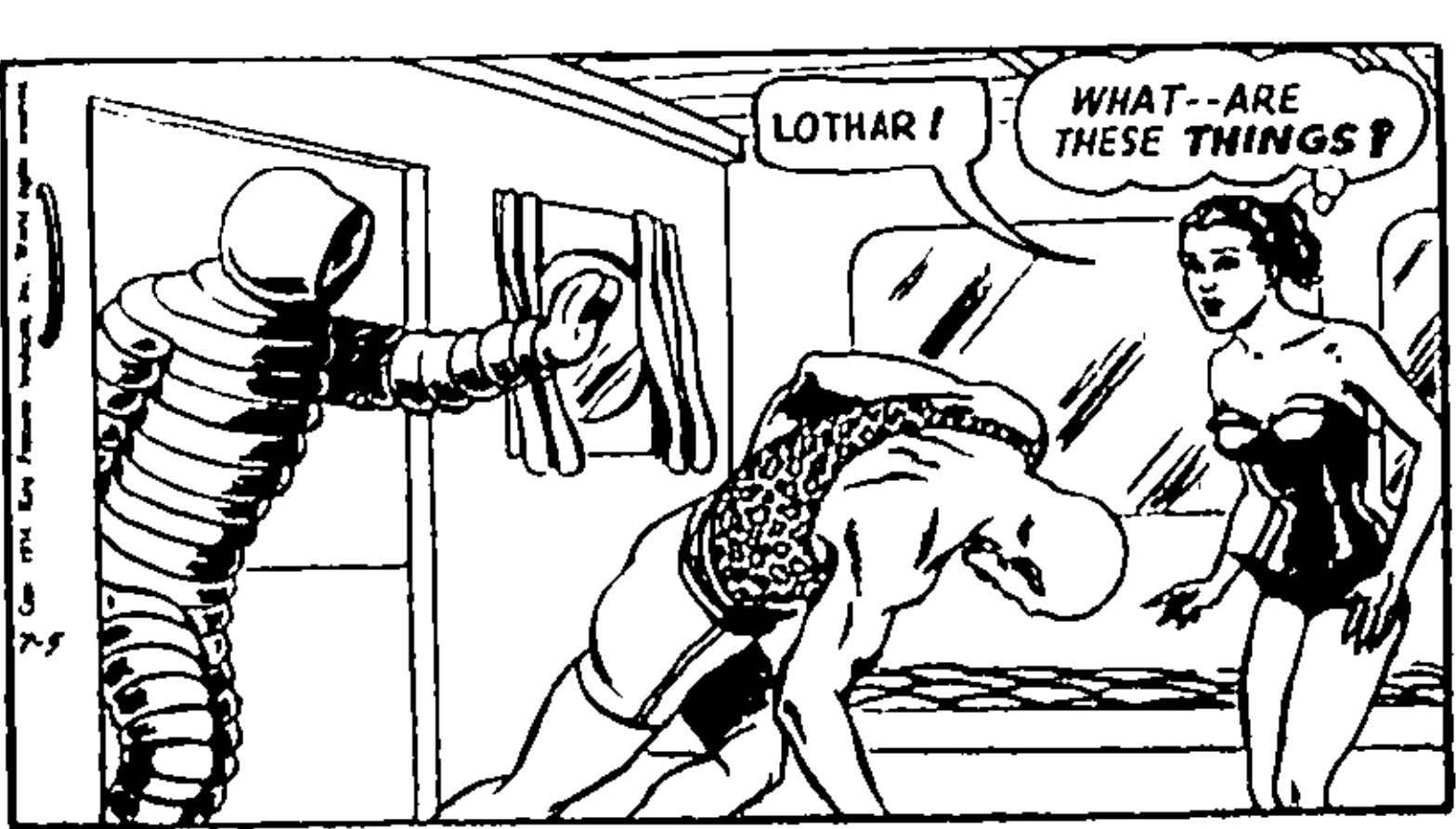
THE QUEEN TO VISIT OSLO

London, Feb. 1.

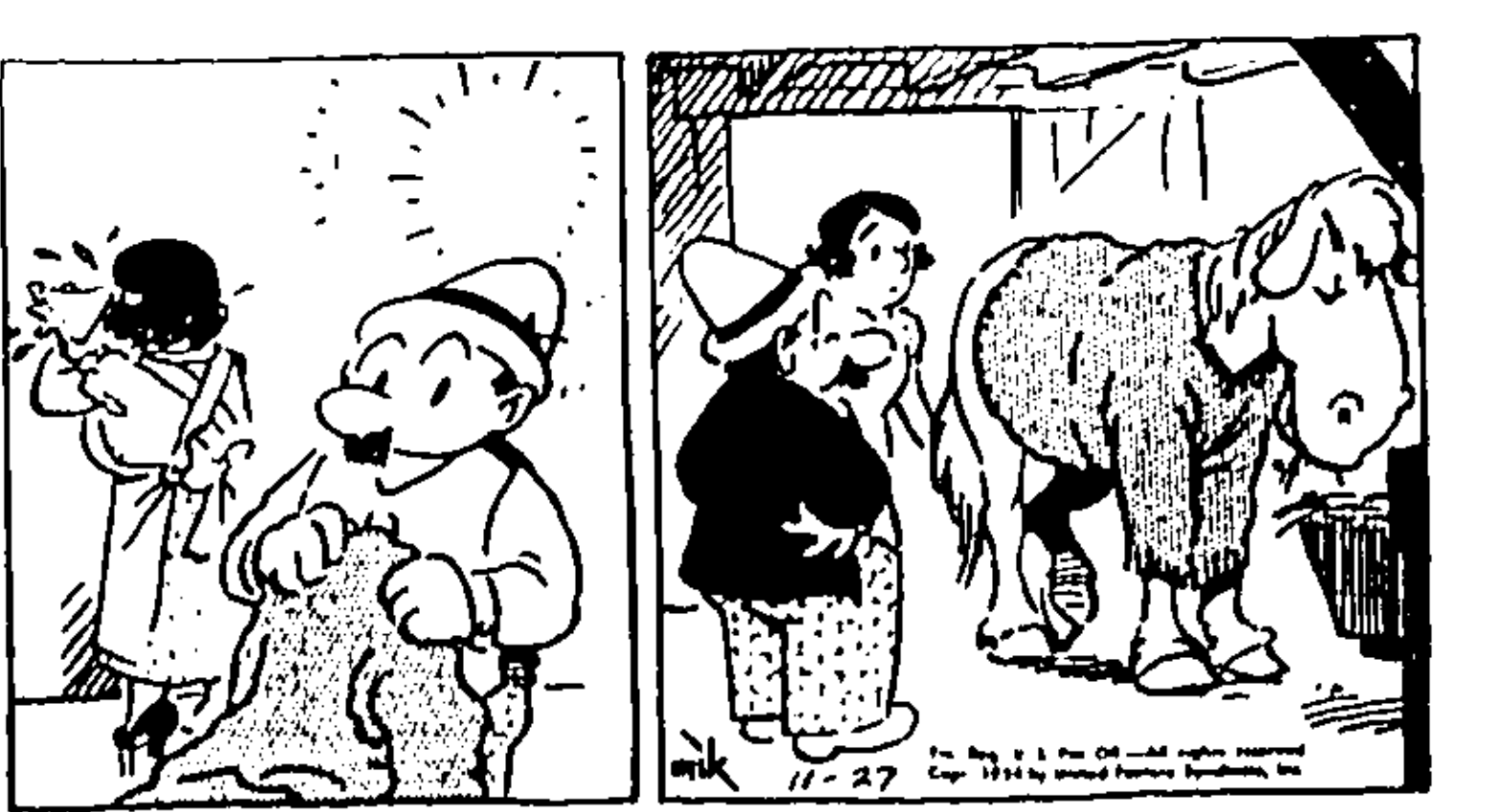
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will sail from Bournemouth, in the Royal yacht Britannia on June 22 for their visit to Oslo, it was announced here today.

They will stay in the Norwegian capital from June 24 to 29.—China Mail Special.

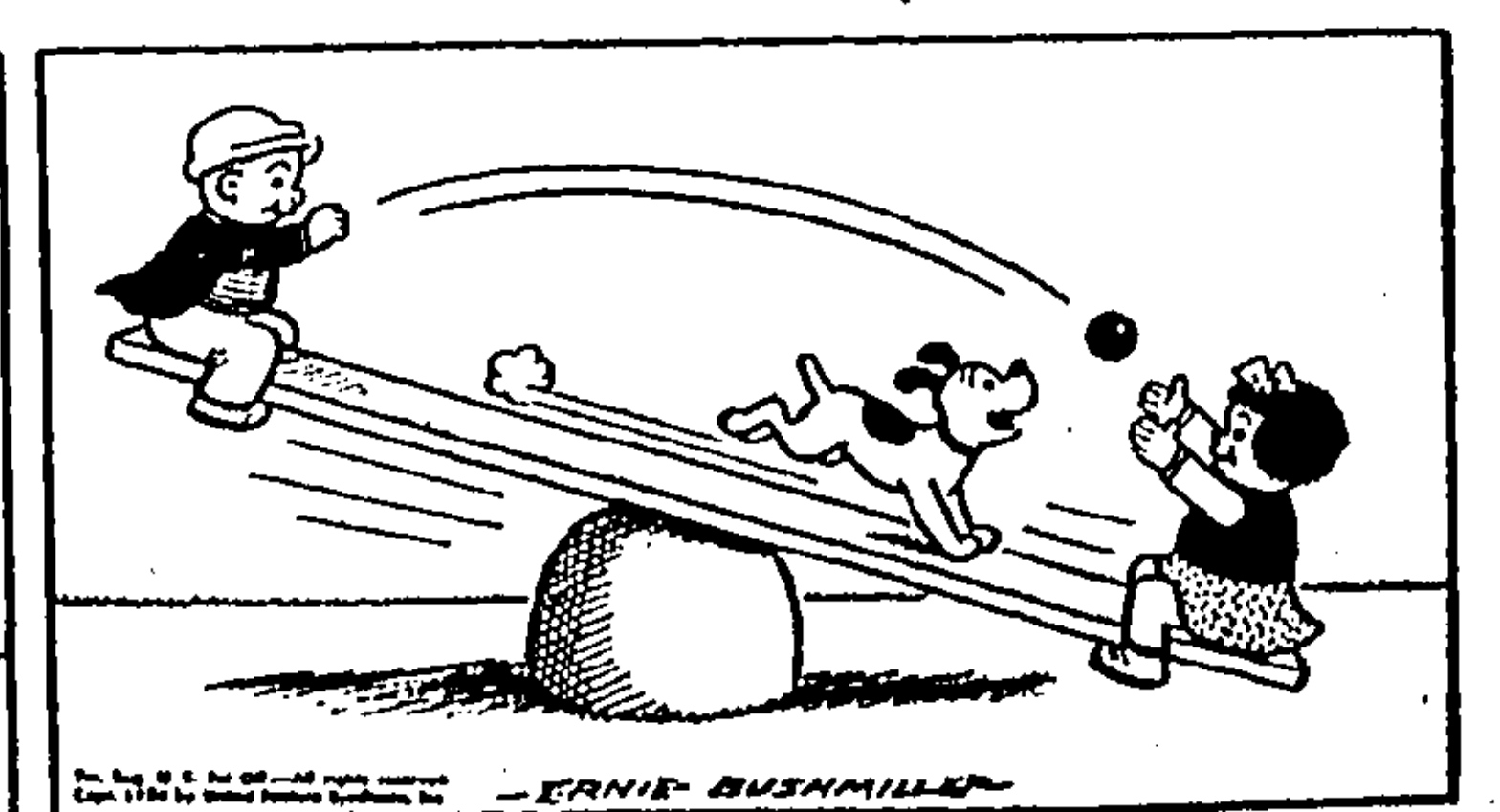
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



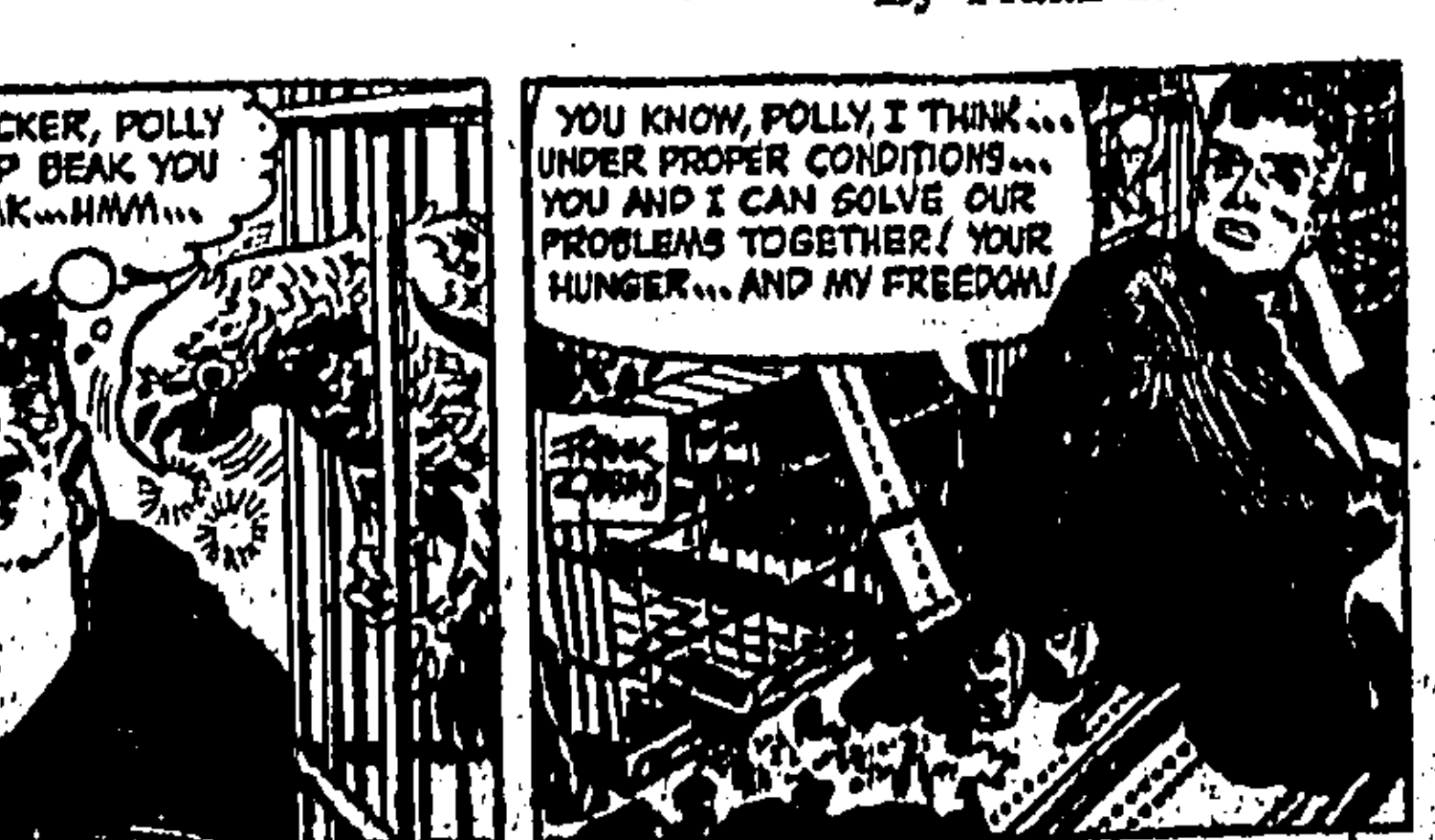
By Mik



By Ernie Bushmiller



By Frank Robbins



Modern Science — Our Magic Carpet

WORLD WAR II AIDED THE HOMES OF PEACE

By JOE JONES

Back in the days of World War II, frustrated U.S. homemakers used to delight in pouring over newspaper and magazine articles predicting "The Dream Home of Tomorrow."

Today, less than a decade after the war's end, "The Dream Home of Tomorrow" has become "The Dream Home of Today," replete with the most modern devices for health, comfort, ease and beauty.

Few realize, however, how much today's home owes to achievements of men of science who, during those crucial World War II days, devoted their talents and know-how to meeting the needs of a nation at war.

Three products now in daily use may be cited as examples: detergents, plastic dishes and a remarkable wrapping material that keeps many foods fresh for weeks.

USES IN WAR

Although synthetic detergents had been developed before the war, they were too expensive for household

use. In the war, detergents were used in areas where only salt water was available for washing.

They also proved valuable in cleaning the wounds of men who were rescued from the sea covered with oil. Marketed later for household consumption, at reasonable prices, they have now surpassed soaps in volume of sales.

Many of the shock-proof and shatter-proof plastic dishes now found in U.S. homes derive from the war period when the U.S. Navy needed dishes that would not break or chip during stormy weather at sea.

The new wrapping material—Suran Wrap—also was first created to meet World War II emergency need for a material which would protect guns, precision instruments and delicate metal parts when shipped overseas.

When the war was over, the makers of Suran Wrap—the Dow Chemical Company—began selling a refinement of this wrap as a food preservative and later through retail outlets to the public.

ADDITIONAL USES

Now, homemakers are finding many additional uses for it, including preserving wet paintbrushes, keeping cornages fresh, barring moths from clothing, and rust-proofing tools and fishing tackle.

The colourful walls which make today's kitchens so pleasing also trace their origin back to the 1941-45 period. Colour consultants evolved the theory that certain tints would ease eye strain among workers in war plants. Put to practice, this theory proved sound and later was adopted by housewives, many of whom had laboured in defence factories during the war.

Whereas formerly the majority of U.S. kitchens were painted dead-white, today they blossom in a variety of pinks, yellows, reds and greens, with the currently fashionable copper pots and pans contributing a harmonious note.

Other novelties predicted in the war years which now belong in the category of "dreams come true" are electronically controlled range units, glass-doored ovens and deep-freezers which make cooking and storing of foods a pleasure instead of a problem.

PRINTING PRODUCT

A new product which will contribute notably to the speed and economy of offset printing was announced by one of the largest manufacturers of office equipment in the United States.

The new Pre-sensitized Photocopy Plastiplate, which requires only one step after exposure to make the offset plate ready for the press is now being produced by Remington Rand Inc.

Possessing the same high qualities as the conventional Plastiplate, the Pre-sensitized Plastiplate comes ready for exposure with all the preliminary processing steps built into the plate itself.

No time or special equipment for sensitizing the plate is required.

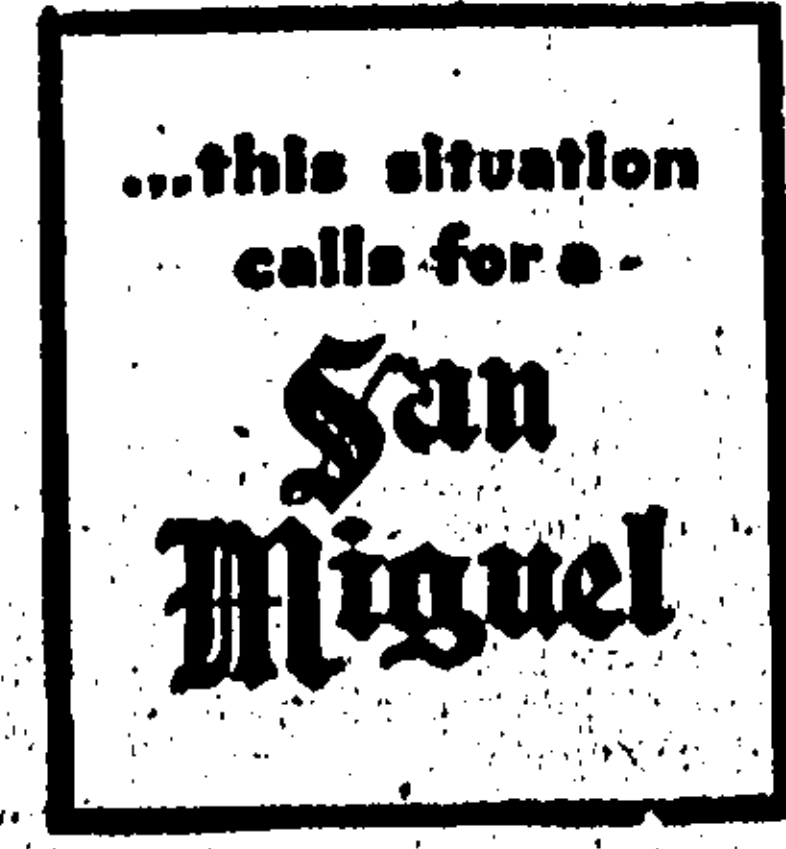
After exposure, the plate is wiped with a piece of cotton soaked in the desensitizing solution and is immediately ready for the offset press.

Exposures can be made as much as 60 per cent faster than with ordinary plates, company officials point out, and errors in the negative can be corrected easily on the plate.

EXTRA INFORMATION

After the plate is dry, extra information can be typed or written right on the plate with a ballpoint pen.

The company is making available for those interested a free copy of booklet entitled "Now... Dependable Speed in Offset Plate Preparation," which describes the new Pre-sensitized Plastiplate in detail.



Soviet Trade Boss Goes



Anastas Ivanovich Mikoyan, the 59-year-old Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, who has given up his post as Minister of Trade. According to Soviet statements—he asked to be released from his post. His successor is Dmitry Vasilyevich Pavlov, head of the State Committee of Supply of Food and Industrial Goods. It is thought that the change may have something to do with the recent Pravda editorial urging Russia to concentrate on heavy industry instead of consumer goods—for Mikoyan has been leader of the consumer goods drive. It is also thought that it may mean a switch in Russia's arms plan.—Express Photo.

WORLD'S BLIND AMBASSADOR COMING TO H.K.

New York, Feb. 1.

Helen Keller, blind and deaf since infancy, received the tributes of five foreign Ambassadors and of Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt tonight without missing a word of what was said.

Miss Keller, guest of honour at a formal farewell banquet before leaving on a final trip around the world, "heard" the speeches through a code tapped out on the palm of her hand by her constant companion, Polly Thomson.

In reply to the praises heaped upon her, Miss Keller spoke briefly in a voice she has never heard and learned to use only through years of hard work.

LAST TRIP

Miss Keller is scheduled to leave on Friday on a 40,000-mile goodwill tour of India, Pakistan and the Far East, including Hong-kong. It will be her last trip as America's "Ambassador" to the world blind.

Her 75th birthday comes on June 27, two days after her return, and she plans to confine her activities to trips around the United States and catching upon her writing after that.

The Ambassadors of India, Pakistan, Burma, the Philippines and Japan all paid tribute to Miss Keller for her years of work on behalf of the world's deaf and blind.

Mr G. L. Mehta of India described her as a "messenger of hope and goodwill to men and women everywhere."

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru sent a message welcoming her plan to visit his country for the first time and expressing the hope that he would be able to meet her.

The Philippines Ambassador to the United States, Mr Feliberto Serrano, said: "In visiting the East today, Miss Keller will come upon a section of the world in particular need of the healing balm which is the example of her life efforts."

AN EXAMPLE

"Miss Keller will thus find in that region a reflection, to some extent, of her own years of painful difficulties and the example of her life will be a message of hope to the teeming millions."

President Eisenhower extended his congratulations on Miss Keller undertaking one

last trip abroad to help persons even less handicapped than she.

Miss Keller was hailed as a "beacon in the dark" to the world's handicapped millions by the Pakistani Ambassador, Syed Amjad Ali. Sudo Iguchi of Japan said that by the example of her life "she has caused countless miracles."

Mrs Roosevelt also paid tribute to Miss Keller as a symbol of hope for millions.

TO SEE CHURCHILL

En route to Asia, where she will lecture, and visit hospitals, Miss Keller will stop in London, where she hopes to talk to the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill.

Then she will go to India, Pakistan, Burma, Hongkong, the Philippines and Japan.—United Press.

Knitting Prize For British Clergyman

London, Feb. 1.

The Reverend R. Reginald Parry, of the Huddersfield (Yorkshire) Congregationalist Church, will be going to Paris sometime in March to collect his knitting prize.

The pastor's knitted sports coat, submitted to the judges of an international knitting contest sponsored by the International Wool Secretariat, has already survived the preliminaries and is assured of a prize. Reverend Parry has been knitting since childhood, and during the last war, won quite a reputation for being able to knit while riding horseback.—France-Press.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

WEAKENING OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Opposition To Eisenhower's Trade Plans

Washington, Feb. 1.

Monsanto Chemical Co charged today President Eisenhower's trade programme would weaken national security by making the United States dependent on chemicals "produced on the Rhine, within range of Russian guns."

Mr Edgar M. Queney, board chairman, appeared before the House Ways and Means Committee. It is considering an administration request for a three-year renewal of the reciprocal trade programme with new tariff-cutting powers.

Opposition to the programme

also was voiced by spokesmen for other chemical firms, including Dow Chemical Co., by glassworkers and by Westinghouse Electrical Corp., Pittsburgh. They opposed enactment unless safeguards were included to protect them against increased competition from imports of cheap foreign goods.

The administration programme would allow tariff cuts of five per cent a year for three years; reduction of tariffs on goods not now imported in appreciable amounts to 50 per cent of the products value; and reduction of any tariff duty to 50 per cent of the Jan. 1, 1954 rates.

NO PROTECTION

The chemical manufacturers and Westinghouse protested that the programme would make no allowance for protecting manufacturers of products vital to national defence to insure domestic production in time of war.

Mr Queney said synthetic organic chemicals comprising more than half of Monsanto's sales are "essential" to national defence. He said foreign producers already can undersell American manufacturers in the American market.

"Without our strong organic chemical industry," Mr Queney said, "Germany would have won World War II." If the Administration programme is adopted and further tariff cuts are made, he said, Monsanto would be within the range of the Russian guns.—United Press.

New York Sugar Market

New York, Feb. 1.

World No 4 sugar futures today closed 1 to 3 points lower with sales of 282 contracts.

Domestic No 6 sugar futures closed unchanged to 3 points lower with sales of 120 contracts.

Extensive switching operations from nearby March to later deliveries dominated activities in the world contract.

Scattered liquidation and hedge selling lower the domestic contract.

The Foreign Operations Administration has issued an authorization for Pakistan to buy \$4,800,000 of sugar. The contracting period runs from January 28 to May 31 with final delivery to be made on July 31. The sugar can be bought anywhere in the world, the report added.

Future closings: Contract No. 4 (world) March 3.18, April 3.18, May 3.18, June 3.18, July 3.18, August 3.18, September 3.18, October 3.18, November 3.18, December 3.18. Contract No. 6 March 3.18, April 3.18, May 3.18, June 3.18, July 3.18, August 3.18, September 3.18, October 3.18, November 3.18, December 3.18. Official values for spot cottons include: American middling 15/16th inch 32.25, Mexican middling 15/16th inch 32.25, Mexican middling 1 1/2 inch 34.50. Others were unchanged.

SAO PAULO

Cotton futures, in cruzeros per kilo were as follows: March 26.50, April 26.50, May 26.50, June 26.50, July 26.50, August 26.50, September 26.50, October 26.50, November 26.50, December 26.50.

In the United States, the average price of 15/16th inch at the 10 designated spot markets was 34.27 cents. Sales at these centres totalled 20,000 bales.—United Press.

LONDON SILVER PRICES

London, Feb. 1.

Prices of silver were quoted today at 73 1/2 pence per fine ounce for spot and 73 1/2 pence for forward (against 74 and 73 1/2 pence previously).—United Press.

Tax Reductions Wanted In U.K.

London, Feb. 2.

The powerful Federation of British Industries today called on the Government to reduce substantially all taxation and encourage economic development by trying to manage on less of the national income.

This would increase initiative among wage earners at all levels and encourage investment in essential industries especially those competing in world markets. The Federation said in a booklet that it had especially recommended to Mr R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he should in the new budget reduce income tax and increase the investment allowance on industrial buildings to 20 per cent.—Reuter.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$748,308. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS HK Bank 11 at 2095

INSURANCES

Union 945 085 20 at 945

Underwriters 10.10 10 at 947 1/2

DOCKS, ETC.

K. Wharf 74

Dock Provident (O) 15.20 15 1000 at 15.20

Wheelock 7.20 7.30 1000 at 15.40

LAND, ETC.

HK Hotel 15.30 15.40

HK Land 08 08 1/2 2121 at 68

Ready 2 2.10

UTILITIES

Tram 21.10 21.30 500 at 21.20

Star Ferry 150 200 at 182

Yau Ma Tei Ferry 180 182 200 at 182

C. Light (O) 17.60 17.80 900 at 17.60

C. Light (N) 14.10 14.00 500 at 14.20

Electric 37 1/2 38 1900 at 37 1/2

Telephone 33 33 1/2 500 at 33 1/2

INDUSTRIALS

Cement 41 1/2 4000 at 41 1/2

STORES, ETC.

Dairy 23 1/2 23.80 500 at 23.70

Watson 14.70 23 1/2

NEW YORK METAL MARKET

New York, Feb. 1.

Price of metal futures closed today in cents per lb. as follows:

LEAD

Feb. 14.18b

Mar. 14.21b

TIN

Feb. 68.70b

Mar. 68.70b

ZINC

Feb. 10.92b

Mar. 11.00b

COPPER

Feb. 36.18b

Mar. 35.80b

LONDON METAL

London, Feb. 1.

The tin market was easier, zinc was irregular while copper and lead were quiet but steady. Prices closed today in sterling per long ton as follows:

TIN

3-month 700 710

3-month 302 1/2 303

3-month 302 1/2 303

Lead Feb. 104 1/2 105 1/2

Mar. 104 1/2 105 1/2

Zinc Feb. 89 1/2 90

Mar. 89 1/2 90

Exchange Rates

Business done in the Spot

NEW REFINERY OPENING IN LEBANON

New York, Feb. 1.

The Mediterranean Refining Company (MEDECO) announced today it hoped to open its new multi-million dollar oil refinery at Sidon, Lebanon today.

The Company said an accelerated effort had been made to begin operations of the plant well ahead of schedule.

The refinery is owned jointly by California Texas Corporation and Socony Vacuum Overseas Supply Company.

Leading Lebanese Government officials will participate in ceremonies marking the opening of the \$8,000,000 refinery. The new plant is considered one of the most modern and one of the largest enterprises in the country's history.

Initially, the refinery capacity was to be 6,250 barrels per day but expansion plans are now well under way to increase capacity to 9,000 barrels per day by 1956, the Company announced.—United Press.

World Rubber Markets

Singapore, Feb. 1.

The rubber market opened nearly two cents over yesterday's close, good acceptance from overseas but sellers met market and there was some selling which caused prices to lose about half the gain.

There was a moderate trade off-take and factory buying.

Future closings were:

No. 1 rubber per lb. Feb. 103 1/2-103 3/4

Mar. 103 1/2-103 3/4

Apr. 103 1/2-103 3/4

May 103 1/2-103 3/4

June 103 1/2-103 3/4

July 103 1/2-103 3/4

Aug. 103 1/2-103 3/4

Sept. 103 1/2-103 3/4

Oct. 103 1/2-103 3/4

Nov. 103 1/2-103 3/4

Dec. 103 1/2-103 3/4

NEW YORK

Futures today closed 80 to 100

points lower with sales of 189

contracts.

Profit-taking and hedge selling, plus the lower London

market, brought pressure on the

terminal market, with partial

recoveries being made at the

close on dealer buying and

covering.

Spot No. 1 Rs were quoted

at 33 1/2 cents a pound. Future

closings:

Mar. 35.45

Apr. 35.40-42

May 35.40

June 35.40

July 35.40

Aug. 35.40

Sept. 35.40

Oct. 35.40

Nov. 35.40

Dec. 35.40

LONDON

The market was dull. No. 1

Rss spot was quoted at 30 pence

per lb. Prices:

No. 1 spot Rs 30-30 1/2

Settlement house 30 1/2-30 1/2

Apr./June 30 1/2-30 1/2

July/Sept. 30 1/2-30 1/2

Oct./Dec. 30 1/2-30 1/2

General markets, all easy, ports:

Feb. 29 1/2-30

Mar. 29 1/2-30

Apr. 29 1/2-30

Estimate crepe thick 31 1/2-40

Estimate crepe thin 31 1/2

AMSTERDAM

The market was steady.

Prices closed today in guilders

per kilogram, CIF Feb. as follows:

No. 1 rubber 292 paid

No. 2 rubber 290 buyers

No. 3 rubber 288 buyers

No. 1 crepe 300 buyers

United Press.

Investigation Dismissed

Washington, Feb. 1.

The Tariff Commission announced today that it has dismissed the application of the

American Knit Handwear Association for an investigation into

possible tariff changes on im-

ported knit or crocheted cotton

gloves and mittens.

This means that no changes in

import duties will be ordered in

the foreseeable future unless

new circumstances arise to pro-

vide grounds for a new applica-

tion.—United Press.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Feb. 1.

Industrial shares on the stock exchange pushed into further new all-time high ground today.

Improvements in the main industrial group generally were under \$1 a share. However, stocks not included in the averages ran up around \$2 a share, with some issues showing much wider gains.

War stocks were again the prime favorites. Aircrafts were particularly strong. Oil equities, also considered "war babies," displayed a considerable amount of strength.

Today's buying again reflected the speculative urge touched off by President Eisenhower's plan if necessary to protect Formosa. A number of corporate news also bolstered the market today. Stocks up its, coupled with dividend increases, helped individual stocks.

In line with recent corporate developments, Ohio Oil 2-for-1 stock split; Armco Steel 2-for-1 split, and Honeywell Cork 3-for-1 stock split.

TRANSACTIONS

Transactions today totalled 3,320,000 shares, compared with 3,500,000 shares yesterday. Of the 1,237 issues traded, 514 closed higher, 492 finished lower, and 251 unchanged.

American Bosch, recently dipped by a radio commentator, led the market in turnover with 74,100 shares changing hands. It closed with a loss of 1/2 to \$18.

Chance Vought was the leader in the war issues. It ran up 4 1/2 points to \$48.

Railroad shares failed to join in the advance. They were generally mixed with a number of issues holding at their previous close.

Steel shares, after early strength, turned downward. However, they managed to finish with small gains over yesterday.

Chemicals tacked on good gains.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$3,694,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 1,040,000.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

Dow-Jones closing averages today were as follows:

30 Industrials 409.70

30 Industrials 143.60

20 rails 60.90

15 utilities 155.40

40 bonds 100.40

Comm. future price index 170.50

United Press.

Singapore Stock Market

Singapore, Feb. 2.

Brokers today quoted to following stock prices:

British Borneo Petroleum 31/80 31/80

Consolidated Tin 24/64 24/64

Fraser and Neave Ltd. 24/64 24/64

Ordinary issue 24/

CLARK CHAPMAN & CO., LTD.
STEAM & ELECTRIC MARINE WINCHES,
PULVERIZED FUEL EQUIPMENT, HIGH
PRESSURE STEAM BOILERS, ELECTRIC
MOTORS AND GENERATORS.

ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO., LTD.
H.K. & Shanghai Bank Bldg. Tel. 27789

CHINA MAIL

Sheaffer's
"SNORKEL"

Page 10 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1955.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Discovery

HOW do they run, those small notices put into the newspapers by those who have been for a long time married? John This and Mary That, at such and such a church or cathedral or register office, on the distant date? After that, the most important part of the notice: Present address.

Then may old friends, forgotten acquaintances, share the couple's triumph, their pleasure and, perhaps, their surprise at their joint survival and write congratulations, or call.

Margaret may never insert such a notice, but that phrase "Present Address" means in great deal to her in connection with her marriage. Tragedy and triumph meet and merge in it for her.

LAPSPING
MARGARET was married a long time ago. It is ten years since a court in its solemn, cold and properly reluctant way, made official her separation from her husband.

So doing, the court ordered that Margaret's husband should make her a payment of so much a week towards her maintenance.

At first he paid, but after a time he stopped doing so. A warrant was issued for his arrest for non-payment of his wife's maintenance. But Margaret's husband managed to keep out of the way of the police who had the warrant just as he managed to keep out of her way.

Then, the other evening Margaret found where her husband lived.

REUNION
TO give herself courage to confront him, perhaps, she gave herself a drink or two, then she sought him out. They met in the street. It was seven years since the couple who had been man and wife had met.

"George," Margaret cried. He turned at the familiar voice. He was shaken to see Margaret. "Go away," he said, "go away, woman."

Shouting she said some of the things she had been saying up to that time during the seven years past. A policeman appeared from round a corner and arrested Margaret for being drunk and disorderly.

TRIUMPH
NEXT morning she, a neat little woman, 50 years old, but younger looking, faced that charge from the dock at the Clerkenwell court.

"What do you want to say?" Mr. T. F. Davies, the magistrate, asked her, when the policeman had told of her behaviour in the street the night before.

"Well you see, sir," she said, composedly, "I'd found where my husband was living. I'd followed him, and when I met him he started to argue. He hasn't paid, sir, you see."

"But you were drunk, the officer says."

"Yes, but I'd found out where he was living," Margaret repeated, to emphasize what a triumph that was. "The police didn't know where he was, and I'd found him."

CONTENTMENT
"WELL," the police know where to find him now," said Mr. Davies.

"Yes," Margaret said. There was an overtone of purring contentment in the one syllable. "You oughtn't to have done this when you were drunk," said the magistrate.

"I suppose not."

FIGHTING AROUND TACHENS

Taipei, Feb. 2. Nationalist Chinese warplanes stepped up their attacks on Communist islands and shipping in the Tachen island area today in the face of steadily mounting Red pressure.

The Nationalist air attacks followed three naval, air and artillery engagements on Tuesday.

An official Nationalist war communiqué said all three branches of Chiang Kai-shek's military forces were battling in clearing Communist military pressure in the Tachens.

The Navy said one of its warships fought a one-hour 10-minute running gun duel with a Communist ship.

Taken at dawn on Tuesday, the attack (the high of the extent of damage to either side was reported).

AERIAL DOG FIGHTS
Two Nationalist warplanes fought dog fights high over Tachen island with Communist Russian-built MIG-15 jet fighters.

The Nationalist communiqué said that plane, returned to Formosa "safely" despite the superiority of the faster Red jets.

Nationalists previously had shot one MIG out of the sky over Tachen.

It was reported that the Tachen islands were under constant air attack from dawn until dusk. Communist MIG fighters and light bombers crossed the island at will.

The Nationalists did not announce whether bombs were dropped.

Change bombers again hit Communist gun positions on Yikangshan island, nine miles north of Tachen. The attacks were concentrated at the long-range stage guns subjecting Tachen to sporadic harassing fire.

CASUALTIES HEAVY
Delayed reports from the Tachen island outpost said casualties from Red air attacks had been heavy, especially among the civilian population.

Unofficial reports, thought to be reliable here, said at least 140 persons were killed or wounded in the Red attacks earlier this week. The Communists were reported to have hit the naval headquarters compound there and also to have razed a woman's barracks.

There were no reports today of further action around Tachen island, 31 miles north of Tachen, which was attacked by four Red warships Tuesday.

This island is held by a few hundred Nationalist irregular troops supported by artillery.

The Communists apparently had used island hopping techniques to isolate this tiny island.

There were no reports today whether the Communists indicated they would invade the island. —United Press.

FLOODS IN COLOGNE



Many of the streets in this old part of Cologne, Germany, near the banks of the river Rhine are flooded, but this enterprising inhabitant solves the transport problem by improvising a boat from a bath.—London Express.

Steward Misses His Ship

Gordon Clifford Fulbrook, a 23-year-old British steward aboard H.M.T. Empire Orwell, who missed the ship when he went ashore for refreshment, was sentenced this morning by Mr. C. C. (Cairns) at the Magistrate's Court to one month's imprisonment.

Fulbrook, a native of Nottingham, was also ordered to be confined in the House of Detention until such a time as arrangements for his repatriation could be made.

Fulbrook pleaded guilty this morning to a charge of having negligently remained in the City after the departure of the Empire Orwell on January 31.

Sub-Inspector K. W. Au, prosecuting officer, said that at about 7 p.m. on January 31, defendant reported to the Tachens police station that he had missed the Empire Orwell which had left an hour earlier.

The defendant stated that he went ashore at 11.30 a.m. on January 31 for some refreshment. When he returned to the wharf, he found the ship had gone.

Mr. K. Reynolds, representative of the agents for the ship, Messrs. MacKinnon, MacKinnon and Company, told the Court the company received a radio message from the commander of the Empire Orwell on the morning of February 1, advising that Fulbrook had missed the ship.

The commander in his message did not state whether he wished Fulbrook to rejoin the vessel on her next call on February 13.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. 6 p.m. Time Signal and Programme Summary: 6.55, Lucky Dip—Variety Recitals presented by Margherita (Studio); 6.58, Weather Report; 7.00, Time Signal and World News (London Relay); 7.05, Commentary (London Relay); 7.10, Special Announcement; 7.15, The Finger (Concert Hall); 7.20, Test Cricket; 7.25, Australian Report on the 5th Day's Play in the 4th Test Match at Adelaide (London Relay); 7.30, The Man in the Moonlight (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 7.35, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 7.40, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 7.45, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 7.50, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 7.55, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 8.00, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 8.05, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 8.10, The Little Prince (from the Mission to Seamen—Queen's Hall); 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